

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00853 110603Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /070 W
-----001878 110623Z /10

R 101150Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2797
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0853

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, QA, US, ZP, XF
SUBJECT: QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER ON MID EAST AND BILATERIAL

RELATIONS

1. QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER SHAYKH SUHAYM BIN HAMAD AL THANI RECEIVED ME ON JULY 9 FOR FOREWELL CALL. MEETING NOTABLE PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT TOOK PLACE SINCE SUHAYM IS CURRENTLY BOYCOTTING AL-OFFICIAL DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS IN PROTEST OVER HIS CONTINUING DISPUTE WITH AMIR OVER REORGANIZATION OF GOQ AND SUHAYM'S POSITION AND POWER IN REVISED SETUP. FONMIN MADE POINT BY RECEIVING ME AT HIS RESIDENCE IN THE EVENING-HE REFUSES TO GO TO HIS OFFICE, AND HIS AIDES HAD BEEN DEFLECTING MY REQUESTS FOR AN APPTINTMENT FOR 2 WEEKS.

2. OUR CONVERSATION WAS VERY GENERAL AND TOUCHED ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AND MID EAST. RE FORMER, SUHAYM THANKED ME FOR MY CONTRIBUTION DURING PAST 3 YEARS TO BROADENING AND DEEPENING GOQ-US TIES AS FIRST RESIDENT US AMB. HE STRESSED HIS CON-
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VICTION THAT US CONNECTION IS GOQ'S MOST IMPORTANT, AND HOPE HAT EACH COUNTRY WTULD CONTINUE TO SEE IT IN THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST TO EXPAND RELATIONS ACROSS THE BOARD. I REPLIED EMBASSY WORKING DILIGENTLY TOWARD THIS GOAL AND WE HAD NOTED QUICKENING PACE OF ACTIVITY AND INTEREST FROM QATARI SIDE DURING PAST YEAR. SUHAYM RECALLED HIS PREVIOUS COMMENTS TN "LACK OF INTEREST" IN QATAR FROM US SIDE, AND EXPRESSED HOPE WE WOULD ACCORD MORE

"ATTENTIION" TO GOQ.

3. ON MID EAST, SUHAYM PRAISED PRESIDENT'S POLICY LINE, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT CLEARLY IDENTIFIED CORE ISSUES OF CREATING PALESTINIAN STATE, WITHDRAWAL AND REAL PEACE. HOWEVER, HE SAID THERE MANY OBSTACLES ON "LONG ROAD" TO TRUE PEACE. HE OBSERVED THAT ARABS NEWLY ACQUIRED POWER AND SELF CONFIDENCE NOW ENABLED THEM TO COUNTENANCE AN ISRAELI STATE IN THE AREA WITHIN '67 BOUNDARIES FIRMLY GUARANTEED BY US AND OTHERS; THIS WAS MAJOR ADVANCE AND ISRAELIS MUST NOW RECIPROCATATE BY RECOGNIZING PALESTINIANS AND WITHDRAWING FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. SUHAYM SAID HE HAD NO ILLUSIONS TN DIFFICULTY OF MID EAST PEACEMAKING, BUT ESSENTIAL CATALYST WAS US DETERMINATION TO SEE JUSTICE DONE TO ALL CONCERNED AND HE ENCOURAGED THAT PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP HAS PUT US ON RIGHT TRACK TO DO SO.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 10-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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